

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.       A method for stimulating the growth of fingernails, toe nails, and  
2 hooves in a mammal, comprising administering to the nail and nail bed a composition that  
3 comprises a ionic metal-peptide complex in an amount effective to increase nail growth and  
4 produce stronger and smoother nail.

1                   2.       The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is selected from the  
2 group consisting of copper (II) or tin (II) and therapeutically acceptable salts and complexes  
3 thereof.

1                   3.       The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is copper (II).

1                   4.       The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is an enzymatic hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products,  
3 silk protein, or soybean protein.

1                   5.       The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is an acid hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products, silk  
3 protein, or soybean protein.

1                   6.       The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a basic hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products, silk  
3 protein, or soybean protein.

1                   7.       The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a bacterial hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products,  
3 silk protein, or soybean protein.

1                   8.       The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a chemically synthesized copper binding peptide.

1                   9.       The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a chemically synthesized peptide and the ionic metal is copper (II),  
3 or tin (II).



1                    10.     The method according to claim 1, wherein the ionic metal-peptide  
2     complex is combined with a carrier to form a cream or lotion.

1                    11     The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the  
2     ionic metal-peptide complex in the composition is 1% to 25%.

1                    12.     A method for improving nail and hoof health, smoothness, and  
2     strength in a mammal, comprising administering to the nail or hoof of said mammal a  
3     pharmaceutical composition that comprises a ionic metal-peptide complex in an amount  
4     effective to stimulate growth and repair and smooth the organ.

2007-01-24 14:00:00